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## ALLIED CUSTOMS WALL CUTS OFF OCCUPIED AREAS

Rhineland No Longer May Be Linked With Germany, Coblenz View.

### IS SEPARATE STATE?

American Military Commander Close Observer of Situation.

### U. S. MEDIATION IS HOPE

Friendly Offices Looked For in Event of Impasse as to Reparations.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. COBLENZ, March 15.—The Rhineland Commission has outlined a policy for the customs tariff to be applied between the occupied and unoccupied areas of Germany and has asked the allied Governments for their approval. But a high official told THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent to-day that no attempt would be made to make actual collections along the eastern line until the replies from all the Allies had been received.

It has been learned, however, that the new customs line will begin four kilometers from Essen and thence along a line to the farthest outposts of the British, American and French zones, the general principle, which is continually being stressed by the French, being that nothing must be done to injure the Rhine country commercially or industrially.

Even in regard to the proposed new tariff, the intention is to follow closely the present German customs rates, thereby constituting virtually a separate State in the occupied regions, which, while not autonomous as long as the Rhineland Commission has civil control, certainly cannot be said to be linked to Germany.

Meanwhile the French have installed entire supervision along the entire frontier and are understood to be considering the stationing of customs officials along the outposts so as to be ready to inaugurate the new system as soon as the word comes from London, Paris and Brussels, which is expected before the end of this week.

Major Gen. Henry T. Allen, commander of the American forces, is serving as America's unofficial observer at all sessions of the Rhineland Commission here, but professes not to have instructions as to what America's attitude is to be. He admits that the fixing of tariffs will give the delegates much worry and he has indicated that the Americans, while not taking any actual part in the customs collections, probably will not interfere with any measures taken by the Allies which do not conflict with America's military occupation of the Coblenz bridgehead.

Newspapers here have given much prominence to the suggestion that America would offer to mediate the reparations claims when the allied leaders find that their calculations are leading them into an impasse, but Gen. Allen says he has not yet had any indications of such intention from Washington.

"Nevertheless Americans have always been great mediators," added Gen. Allen. "They have accomplished much along the line of making compromises ever since the days of Henry Clay, but the proposal at present seems improbable." All the turmoil over the customs barrier, however, has not yet changed the general aspect in the Ruhr Valley, its smoking chimneys and throngs of bustling workers telling the usual story of Germany's effort to regain her pre-war industrial wealth, while the manufacturers continue to direct a barrage of propaganda to the effect that the Ruhr will be ruined and the Allies with it unless the customs barrier is so near to normal that the Allies to-day withdrew the gunboat Pirella to Mayence from Ruhrort and there is some talk of reducing the sentry posts at Düsseldorf.

By the Associated Press. DUESSELDORF, March 15.—Gen. Gauchier, commander of the occupational forces, in a new order issued to-day warns the merchants of the occupied area not to further raise prices. They are cautioned against creating the impression that the higher prices charged for clothing and foodstuffs are due to the allied occupation. Offenders will be punished severely and their stores will be closed, the order says.

Merchants say the higher prices are caused by the fact that goods are not coming into the region.

## Poles Can't Come Here Unless Wives Say So

WARSAW, March 15 (Jewish Telegraph Agency).—An announcement was made to-day on behalf of the American Consul here that in the future he will issue no visas to men going abroad unless they can produce proof that they have the permission of their wives to make the voyage.

## GERMANY PROTESTS TREATY IS VIOLATED

Berlin Argues That It Does Not Permit Fresh Occupation of German Soil.

BERLIN, March 15.—In a protest to the League of Nations on the infliction of penalties by the Allies the German Government claims that the only provisions in the treaty affecting this question are paragraph 15 of appendix 2 to part 8 and the concluding sections of Article 429 and Article 430. These, it is declared, do not admit of any fresh occupations of German soil beyond the territory west of the Rhine and the bridgeheads.

The German Government further contends that there has been no infringement of the provisions of the treaty justifying the infliction of the economic sanctions, and argues that the levy against German goods is in contradiction to the remunciations by the British, Italian and Belgian Governments of paragraph 15 of the appendix to the treaty.

The League of Nations is requested to initiate mediation proceedings and to see that the forcible measures the Allies have undertaken be immediately stopped.

PARIS, March 15.—Germany was yesterday called upon by the allied reparations commission to carry out Article 235 of the Versailles Treaty, which stipulates Germany must pay before May 1, 1921, the equivalent of 20,000,000,000 gold marks. The treaty provides that this payment may be made in gold, commodities, ships, securities or other valuables, and that out of this sum the expenses of the armies of occupation are first to be met.

The commission also took steps to carry out Article 233 of the treaty, which provides that Germany must be notified before May 1 that the total amount of war damage imposed upon her by the treaty.

"If Germany persists in refusing to make payment," says the *Petit Parisien*, "she will force us to impose upon her the integral execution of the treaty. That was the significance of yesterday's meeting."

Negotiations between France and Germany concerning the transfer of funds collected for the purpose of paying disability and old age insurance to residents of Alsace and Lorraine have failed, and France, it is declared, is preparing to ask that Article 27 of the Versailles Treaty be enforced. This article provides that the German Government shall undertake to pay over to the French Government a proportion of all resources accumulated by the empire or by public or private bodies dependent upon it for the purposes of disability and old age insurance.

## TROTSKY THREATENS TO RAZE KRONSTADT

Will Send Third and Final Ultimatum To-day.

By the Associated Press. LONDON, March 15.—The Russian Soviet War Minister, Leon Trotsky, has twice delivered an ultimatum to Kronstadt and will deliver a final ultimatum to-morrow, according to information received by the Riga correspondent of the *London Times* from M. Joffe, head of the Russian peace mission in Riga, who has been so informed by the Russian Foreign Minister, M. Tchitcherine.

Trotsky's final ultimatum will declare: "If the town remains obdurate it will be stormed and razed."

American Red Cross food supplies from Viborg, Finland, have reached Kronstadt. A representative of the Red Cross who has just returned to Viborg says splendid order prevails at Kronstadt and that the origin of the revolt was the refusal of the Soviet authorities to consent to the demand that Soviets should be appointed by election and only a certain number of seats allotted to the Bolsheviks. The Kronstadt Government declares that its aim is reconstruction, while the Bolshevik aim at destruction.

A fugitive who arrived in Revel from Moscow asserted that Soviet officers refused to participate in the operations against Kronstadt.

## ALFREDO ZAYAS CHOSEN PRESIDENT OF CUBA

Unofficial Returns Indicate Defeat of Gomez.

HATANA, March 15.—Incomplete unofficial returns from partial elections in five provinces received up to 11 o'clock to-night seemed to indicate that Alfredo Zayas, the Conservative-Popular or so-called "National League" candidate, had won over Gen. Jose Miguel Gomez, the Liberal-Democrat-Pusion candidate, for President of the republic.

## BRIAND UNDER FIRE FOR FOUR HOURS

Socialists Criticise French Premier for Policy on Reparations.

### CALL HIS PLAN WEAK

M. Auriol Says German Levy Will Show Deficit After Paying Occupation.

By LAURENCE HILLS. Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Paris, March 15.

Insistence by Socialist groups that the Allies abandon what was called a costly and unsatisfactory system of collecting reparations payments from Germany, comprising occupation, threats and insufficient customs levies, at a time when France's treasury is in a condition graver than ever before, developed in the Chamber of Deputies to-day. Despite Premier Briand's plea to defer discussion of the London agreements by the Allies until next Thursday, the interpellators forced the Premier to listen to their criticisms for nearly four hours.

Interest to-day centered in the violent criticisms by Jean Hennessy, whose theory is that German labor and German material must be used to build up the devastated regions without delay, and the heckling of the Government by Vincent Auriol, who asked why it did not seek financial assistance from the United States, assistance which was promised to French labor leaders two years ago, according to statements by Leon Jouhaux, but which financiers across the Atlantic repudiate any knowledge of.

The whole of to-day's arguments was based on economic grounds. M. Auriol stressing the importance of lending a helping hand to Germany, which was alone possible when exchange fluctuations were eliminated by American assistance. M. Auriol would then have the Allies organize an international reparations machine, which would direct all restoration work, with Germany supplying whatever material she was capable of producing, but also would pay for material received from other countries, the whole of the reparations to be balanced against her account annually.

He insisted that the penalties would be ineffective because, according to the most reliable statistics, France's part of the duties which it would be possible to levy would, after payment of the expenses of occupation, show a deficit of 50,000,000 francs annually instead of furnishing cash for reparations.

"The only remaining question is that of financing," M. Auriol said. "Germany cannot borrow unless she has given to her international security and support. Therefore, if all Europe interests herself thus in reparations, I have no doubt the United States will no longer refuse to become a sleeping partner."

M. Auriol clashed once with Premier Briand when he declared that Paul Doumer, Minister of Finance, told the Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies that the receipts from the importation levies on German exports were to be taken by the country. Premier Briand explained briefly that this levy would constitute a common fund for the Allies' benefit, but refused to explain to-day whether the fund would be apportioned by the Reparations Commission on the basis of the Brussels percentages.

M. Hennessy condemned the British policy, which, he said, consisted in placing a customs barrier against German dumping and then seeking an outlet for British wares to Russia.

"The English seem to have gained the biggest profit possible from the London conference," he said. "They have protected themselves against German competition."

After showing the necessity for taxing German goods sent into the allied countries through neutral countries, M. Hennessy reverted to his original theme for the use of German labor and material in rebuilding the devastated regions, demanding that Parliament discuss the scheme thoroughly before voting any new offer the Berlin Government may make.

For the first time since its formation the Communist group headed by Marcel Cachin outlined the policy of M. Cachin, declaring that the members favored "limiting the reparations to be paid by Germany to the actual damage suffered by civilians." He said the present allied arrangement, both from the number and the size of the annuities sought, was not giving satisfaction either to the spirit of justice or to common sense.

## GERMANY ACCUSES POLES IN SILESIA

More Than 100,000 Natives Have Returned to Vote There Next Sunday.

### OUTCOME STILL DOUBTFUL

Berlin Reports Captain of Police Killed and Other Fatal Clashes With Poles.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, London, March 15.

Germany has addressed a note to Great Britain in which she protests against the alleged Polish intimidation of German voters in Upper Silesia, where the plebiscite takes place next Sunday.

British Foreign Office information from Upper Silesia admits that the outcome of the plebiscite is extremely doubtful. This information contains no confirmation of reports of the concentration of large German armed forces on the Polish frontier, but it reveals that many Germans now outside of Upper Silesia, but who are qualified to vote in the plebiscite there next Sunday, are planning to return to the area to vote in organized bodies for their own protection.

"Next Sunday promises certain liveliness in Upper Silesia, with the result of the voting spotty," one well informed Foreign Office official here said to-day.

The enforcement of the allied sanctions following the refusal of the Germans to sign the reparations demands and even the question of reparations are overwhelmed at the present time by the pending Upper Silesian plebiscite vote, since the Germans have hunched their London counterproposals in connection with reparations on the condition that they retain Upper Silesia. Now they are plainly apprehensive over the result of the plebiscite voting, because, they say, they fear the voting there cannot be conducted without sinister influences playing an important part.

In this connection THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent here learned that the German note to Great Britain complains against the alleged Polish intimidation policy as being designed to prevent Germans outside of Upper Silesia, who have a right to vote in the plebiscite from coming into the territory to express their opinion at the polls. The Germans assert that the Poles are using drastic measures, such as physical force, in addition to all manner of intimidation, to keep these Germans from voting.

The Berlin Government wants an assurance from Great Britain that these German voters in Upper Silesia will not be interfered with and that the plebiscite will be conducted according to the terms of the Treaty of Versailles.

## RUSH FROM GERMANY TO VOTE IN SILESIA

More Than 100,000 Natives Return for Plebiscite.

By the Associated Press. DUESSELDORF, Silesia, March 15.—More than 100,000 of Upper Silesia's native sons and daughters from all sections of Germany have already reached their respective voting precincts in the plebiscite zones. Their presence is infecting the home population with unbounded enthusiasm and has served to give German hopes a mighty impetus.

The polling arrangements for Sunday next, the voting day, now have been perfected. They call for the united services of the plebiscite police, the military forces and officials in all branches of the Government.

One of the novelties of voting day will be the balloting by inmates of jails and other penal institutions who are eligible. These also will be given one German and one Polish ballot. The valid ballot will be deposited in a ballot box, while the other one must be burned in the presence of the officials, this procedure varying from that employed in the open voting throughout the plebiscite zones, where both the valid and destroyed ballots will be deposited by the voter.

The incoming voters are cordially welcomed at the railway station and on the way. In the present allied arrangement, both from the number and the size of the annuities sought, was not giving satisfaction either to the spirit of justice or to common sense.

Berlin, March 15.—Capt. Luschin of the German plebiscite police in Upper Silesia was shot while riding with French and British officers, says a despatch to the *Vossische Zeitung* to-day from Koelnigshutte, Silesia.

## TALAAAT PASHA IS SLAIN BY ARMENIAN STUDENT

Ex-Grand Vizier, Blamed for Massacres, Was Refugee.

By the Associated Press. BERLIN, March 15.—Talaat Pasha, former Grand Vizier and Minister of Finance of Turkey, was assassinated in Charlottenburg, a suburb of Berlin, to-day. He was shot to death. The murderer, an Armenian student, who accompanied Talaat in the street and then fired the fatal shot, was arrested. He also wounded Talaat's wife.

Talaat Pasha was walking with his wife in Hardenberger strasse when he was spoken to by the student, who approached him from behind. As Talaat turned to return the greeting the stranger fired at the former Grand Vizier's head, killing him instantly. A second shot struck Talaat's wife. The assassin threw away his weapon and attempted to escape, but a crowd of pedestrians captured him, beat him severely and then turned him over to the police. His name is said to be Salomon Telirlian.

Talaat Pasha, with Enver Pasha and Djemal Pasha, formed the triumvirate which controlled the Turkish Government during the war. In July, 1919, a Turkish court-martial investigating the conduct of the Government during the war period condemned the three men to death. Talaat already had fled to Germany, in which country Enver Pasha and Djemal also took refuge.

Responsibility for the massacres of Armenians was thrown on Talaat Pasha and soon after his arrival in Berlin it was reported the Turkish Government would demand his extradition, along with that of other Turkish Generals. It was said the Turkish Government intended to punish Talaat and the others for the Armenian atrocities, but he never was extradited.

## Warm Days Halt Home Ice Making

Housewives in some of the more learned sections of the city, where economy is also practiced, complain about the warm weather. During the nippy days these housewives fill their dishpans with water before retiring and place them outside on the fire escape. In the morning the dishpan contains a large cake of ice. But during these warm days the housewives have to shout, "Oh, Joe!" and order ice, a small chunk of which costs 30 cents. —New York Sun.

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